

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

September 12, 1981

USSR-POLAND: "Open Letter" From Moscow Workers

The Kremlin's decision to publish an "open letter" from workers in Moscow to their Polish counterparts is likely to develop into an extensive propaganda campaign to mobilize Soviet public opinion against Solidarity. The letter claims that the Soviet populace is "especially upset" by Solidarity's appeal to the workers of Eastern Europe. As published by TASS, the text declares that Soviet workers "want to believe" that Poland will defend socialist achievements on its own, but reiterates that Poland can count on "the solidarity and support of the Soviet people." [REDACTED]

A shrill Soviet campaign against Solidarity would add to Moscow's continuing pressure on the Polish regime to take firm action to curb the union. An additional aim of such a campaign would be to reaffirm to the Soviet and East European peoples that the radical changes taking place in Poland will not be tolerated elsewhere. [REDACTED]

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